

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment, several portions of the specification will have been amended to eliminate a misspelling of term describe a well-known format and two of the drawing figures will have correspondingly have been amended to eliminate the same misspelling. Further, claims 13-15, 20-22 and 40 are being canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter.

During an interview initiated by and conducted with Examiner Lin on June 12, 2007, the Examiner indicated that the previously indicated-to-be-allowable claims 30, 31, 35 and 36 were properly grouped with the then unelected claims of Group II. The Examiner suggested that Applicant change his previous election of the claims of Group I (i.e., claims 13-15, 20-22 and 40) to the claims of Group II and he would include the previously indicated-to-be-allowed claims 30, 31, 35 and 36 therewith.

The Examiner also indicated, during the above-noted interview, that based on his search of the art and his consideration of the claim language, he believed such shift in election would result in the allowance of all the claims pending in the application if the claims drawn to Group I (i.e., claims 13-15, 20-22 and 40) were canceled.

Accordingly, by the present response, Applicant has complied with the Examiner's request and have otherwise amended the specification and drawings in order to eliminate informalities noted by the Examiner and to place the present application in condition for allowance.

In this regard, Applicant thanks Examiner Lin for his cooperation and courtesy exhibited during the above-noted interview as well as for his positive and proactive approach towards defining allowable subject matter in the present application. In this regard, Applicant provides

hereinbelow an Interview Summary which is supplemental to the Interview Summary form issued by the Examiner in the communication dated June 22, 2007. In this regard, Applicant submits that the Examiner's characterization of the discussion during the above-noted interview is substantially correct. Nevertheless, Applicant wishes to point out that, while the Examiner asserted that the two Groups were patentably distinct, Applicant's undersigned representative did not agree with the Examiner's position but merely agreed to shift the election and cancel the previously elected claims directed to Group I in order to expedite the allowance of the remaining claims in the present application.

In this regard, Applicant expressly reserve the right to file a divisional/continuation application directed to the herein canceled claims as well as to any other subject matter contained in the present application. Again, the Examiner is respectfully thanked for his initiative in conducting the above-noted interview and for his cooperation during the prosecution of the present application.

In particular, Applicant wish to make of record a previous telephone interview during which claims 13 and 20 were discussed and, as a result of which an amended version of claims 13 and 20 were forwarded to the Examiner by facsimile.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of any outstanding rejections asserted against any of the claims pending in the present application together with an indication of the allowability of all the claims pending herein, in due course. Such action is respectfully submitted to be appropriate and proper and is thus respectfully requested.

Applicant has discussed the references applied against the claims in the present application and, in previous responses, has pointed out the shortcomings and deficiencies thereof.

In this regard, Applicant notes that the patentability of each claim in the present application is based on the particular combination of features recited therein.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

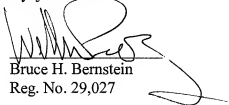
Applicant has made a sincere effort to place the present application in condition for allowance and believe that he has now done so. Applicant has amended the specification and drawings to eliminate a misspelling therefrom in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Applicant has additionally canceled several claims that were previously elected and has requested that the Examiner permit a shift in election. Such action is taken in order to place the present application in condition for allowance and is not intended to be a disclaimer of any subject matter or an acquiescence in the propriety of the Examiner's previous Restriction Requirement or rejections.

Accordingly, Applicant has provided a clear evidentiary basis supporting the patentability of all the claims in the present application and respectfully request an indication to such effect, in due course.

Any amendments to (or cancellation of) the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this Response, or the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Kyoji SAITO



Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

William Pieprz
Reg. No. 33,630

June 29, 2007
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191